[English]

Railway Line between Kottur-Harihar

3606. SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) since when the work on Kottur-Harihar commenced;

(b) the estimated cost of the above rail line;

(c) the amount spent on the above rail line, so far;

(d) the amount provided during 1997-98;

(e) whether the work on above rail line has been slowed down;

(f) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(g) the time by which above work is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) The actual construction work has not yet commenced. Final Location Survey has just been completed.

(b) Rs. 66 crs.

(c) Rs. 24.9 lakhs

(d) Rs. 5 crs.

(e) Yes, Sir.

(f) The committee appointed by the Cabinet for review of projects has recommend freezing of this project. CCEA have been requested to review the decision. The work would be resumed once their approval for restarting the work is received.

(g) Will be decided after the work is taken up and will depend on the availability of resources.

Construction of Over-Bridges in Punjab

3607. SHRI SUKHBIR SINGH BADAL : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Railway over-bridges sanctioned for construction in Punjab, location-wise;

(b) the financial allocation made for this purpose; and

(c) the time by which construction works are likely to be completed ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) The following road over bridges have been sanctioned for construction in Punjab, on Cost Sharing Basis:

(1) Ludhiana-Road Over Bridge in lieu of level crossing No. 2A/2 on Ludhiana-Ferozpur section.

(2) Ludhiana-Road Over Bridge in lieu of L.C. No. A-1 on Ludhiana-Dhuri line.

(3) Kotkapura-Road Over Bridge in lieu of L.C. No. 25/B on Bhatinda-Ferozpur line.

(4) Jalandhar-Road Over Bridge at Rama Mandi Chowk in lieu of L.C. No. 68/A on Ludhiana-Amritsar line.

(b) Total outlay provided during the year 97-98 for the bridges under construction is :

(1) Ludhiana on Ludhiana-Ferozpur Section - 21.00 lakh

(2) Ludhiana on Ludhiana-Dhuri Section - 24.00 lakh

(3) Kotkapura - 25.00 lakh

(4) Jalandhar - 25.00 lakh

(c) Works are under progress and completion will depend on completion of approaches by the State Government.

Introduction of Incentive Scheme by SAIL

3608. SHRI N. RAMAKRISHNA REDDY : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Steel Authority of India Limited has introduced incentive scheme for employees to boost sales and realisation;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the other steps taken to overcome the slide down in profit ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA) : (a) to (c) A reoriented Reward Scheme for the employees focussing mainly on boosting sales and realisation has been introduced in the Central Marketing Organisation (CMO) of SAIL w.e.f. June, 1997. This scheme is applicable both for executives and non-executives. It is based on monthly performance and the reward payment is also made on a monthly basis.

SAIL is taking steps on a continuous basis to improve its performance, which include modernisation and technological upgradation of its plants, improving techno-economic factors i.e. reduction in coke rate, energy consumption, metallic input, improvement in yield, captive power generation extensive customer contract, market oriented product-mix, improvement in quality, long term relationship with customers, leadership in service and customer satisfaction, strict control and monitoring of operating costs, higher productivity and greater autonomy to field officers, etc.